



NEWS RELEASE

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Psychologist Charged with Sexually Molesting Two Children

A psychologist was charged today with multiple counts of sexually molesting a young boy and girl, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Michael Dane Ward (dob 10/4/71) is scheduled to be arraigned after 1:30 p.m. today in Department 30 at the Foltz Criminal Justice Center in case BA446469. Prosecutors will ask that his bail be set at \$2.6 million.

He was charged with a total of 10 felonies, including four counts of lewd act on a child, two counts of forcible lewd act on a child under 14, three counts of forcible oral copulation or sexual penetration with a child 10 years old or younger and one count of sexual intercourse or sodomy with a child 10 years or younger.

The boy was 9 when the alleged incidents occurred between August 2014 and March 31, 2016. The girl was 10 when the alleged incidents occurred between August 2015 and March 31.

Deputy District Attorney Reinhold Mueller with the Sex Crimes Division is prosecuting the case.

Ward, employed as a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department psychologist, was arrested Thursday after the department's Special Victim's Bureau launched an investigation when the allegations were reported, sheriff's officials said.

If convicted, Ward faces up to life in state prison.

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[About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.